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PATENT APPLICATION

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Kazuhiro ASADA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2874

Application No.: 10/680,223

Examiner: J. KANG

Filed: October 8, 2003

Docket No.: 117085

For: OPTICAL CONNECTOR

SUMMARY OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants' representative conducted a personal interview with Examiner J. Kang on April 7, 2006. A summary of the substance of the personal interview is contained in the following remarks.

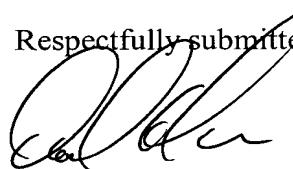
Applicants' representative reviewed the claim amendments and arguments made in Applicants' Amendment filed on March 21, 2006. Specifically, Applicants' representative noted for the Examiner the claim feature wherein the first mounting portion is disposed only at opposing edges of the first housing body, the opposing edges being substantially parallel to a central longitudinal axis of the guide sleeve portion. With specific reference to Fig. 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,547,446 B2 to Yamaguchi, Applicants' representative noted that any alleged first mounting portions shown in the prior art reference, to which the Office Action indicates considering elements 30 and 40 to correspond, are not disposed only at opposing edges of the first housing body. Evidence of, and support for, the amended claim features, Applicants'

representative noted, are provided at least at Fig. 1, element 16, Fig. 4, element 116, and Fig. 9, element 216, of Applicants' disclosure.

Based on the claim amendments, and as a result of the arguments set forth during the personal interview, Examiner Kang agreed that this added feature appears to overcome the Yamaguchi reference.

Should any questions arise regarding this correspondence, all inquiries may be directed to Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Daniel A. Tanner, III
Registration No. 54,734

JAO:DAT/ccs

Date: April 12, 2006

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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